

Message Text

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TAGS: GATT, ETRD, UNCTAD, AORG

SUBJECT: GATT/UNCTAD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS--GOODE VISIT

REF: (A) STATE 67212 (B) USUN 1229

1. MISSION HAD TWO LONG AND INFORMATIVE MEETINGS WITH GOODE, WHO PROPOSED COMPLEX NEW SET OF ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ITC DESIGNED TO AVOID RESTORATION OF APPROACH ADOPTED BY GOVERNMENTS IN GATT COUNCIL (CW 212) AND RECOMMENDED BY JAG IN JANUARY 1974. HE WAS FRANK THAT THIS WAS HIS MISSION HERE.

2. GOODE ARRIVED WITH IMPRESSION THAT JAG RECOMMENDATIONS HAD BEEN SUPPORTED BY ONLY TWO OR THREE DELEGATES. MISSION INFORMED HIM OF UNANIMOUS--EXCEPT GERMANY--DECISION OF JAG, AND, WHILE HE ALSO MET SWEDISH AND BRAZILIAN MISSION PERSONNEL, WE URGED HIM SEE MALAYSIA, NORWAY, CANADA, ARGENTINA, INDONESIA, JAMAICA, NIGERIA, OR OTHERS FOR THEIR VIEWS. UNABLE CONFIRM WHETHER HE DID SO.

3. GOODE SAID AT LEAST SOME OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY CURRENT UN ARRANGEMENT COULD BE CORRECTED BY HIS PROPOSALS, WHICH INVOLVE AMONG OTHER THINGS SETTING UP VARIOUS DIFFERENT APPROVING FUNCTIONS FOR ITC PROJECTS
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DEPENDING UPON THE SOURCE OF FINANCING, CREATING A NEW

GENEVA UN ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF OF THREE OR FOUR PEOPLE, AND ARRANGEMENTS TO ACCOMMODATE "OVERHEADS" PROBLEMS ON UNDP-FINANCED PROJECTS WHICH ITC PERFORMS. WE NOW AWAITING EXPLANATION OF IMPLICATIONS THESE PROPOSALS FROM GATT, UNCTAD, AND ITC SECRETARIATS. TO DATE, GATT DG LONG HAS NOT APPROACHED MISSION REPLACING JAG RECOMMENDATIONS ON COUNCIL AGENDA (REF (A)). HOWEVER, HIS FIRST REACTION TO GOODE'S PROPOSALS IS THAT THEY ARE UNUSUALLY COMPLEX AND HIS UNDERSTANDING OF SHORTCOMINGS OF CURRENT UN ARRANGEMENTS IS THAT THEY TOO COMPLICATED. FINAL REACTION OF SECRETARIATS WILL PROBABLY BE GIVEN IN ABOUT THREE WEEKS. SECRETARIAT PAPER IS TO GIVE DETAILS OF PROPOSALS AND VIEWS ON EXTENT TO WHICH THEY SOLVE PROBLEMS AT HAND. WILL FORWARD WHEN AVAILABLE.

4. COMMENT: WE DO NOT BELIEVE US INTERESTS SERVED BY PROLONGATION OF THIS ISSUE. EFFICIENT USE OF US FUNDS CONTRIBUTED THROUGH GATT AND UNCTAD TO ITC BUDGET CONTINUES TO BE DELAYED BY PASSAGE OF MONTHS SINCE JAG RECOMMENDED SPECIFIC CORRECTIVE MEASURES. ALSO AT ISSUE IS CONTINUATION OF EXCESSIVE UNCTAD POLICY ENCROACHMENT ON JOINT GATT/UNCTAD ORGANIZATION. THIS TOO COVERED BY JAG RECOMMENDATIONS. GOODE PROPOSALS APPEAR TO US TO BE CREATIVE, ALBEIT SOMEWHAT COMPLEX AND INVERTED ATTEMPT SOLVE ITC DIFFICULTIES WITHOUT TECHNICALLY UNDOING SOME OF UN BUREAUCRACY'S ADMINISTRATIVE STEPS. IF THE THREE SECRETARIATS AGREE THESE DO THE JOB, THEN WE RECOMMEND US SUPPORT THEM. IF NOT, WE SHOULD ASK GATT COUNCIL GET ON WITH BUSINESS OF CONSIDERING JAG RECOMMENDATIONS. DALE

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